

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1-24 (Cancelled)

Claim 25 (Currently amended): A suit to be worn by a person in contact with water, said suit consisting ~~essentially~~ of an outer layer of substantially closed cell compressible material, an outer protective layer and at least a portion of the suit includes a layer of wool, or wool with other fibers or materials, which forms an inner layer of the suit in contact with the person and said inner layer provided to contact and retain at least some of the liquid which enters the suit from an external source and/or from the person wearing the suit and wherein said inner layer is laminated to the outer layer and provided of a weight of between 50-500 grams per square meter such that the inner layer retains the liquid therein to form a substantially non-compressible, thermal barrier between the said person and the outer layer of the suit.

Claim 26 (Previously presented): A suit according to claim 25 characterized in that solely wool is used for the inner layer.

Claim 27 (Previously presented): A suit according to claim 25 characterized in that the wool is mixed with other fibers or materials to add or provide specific performance features

Claim 28 (Previously presented): A suit according to claim 25 characterized in that the wool or wool with other fibers or material is positioned over portions of the suit which when worn lie at any or any combination of the torso, legs and/or arms of the wearer.

Claim 29 (Previously presented): A suit according to claim 25 characterized in that the suit is a wetsuit and for at least a portion or portions of said suit, water can pass between the inner surface of the said outer layer of material and the person wearing the suit.

Claim 30 (Previously presented): A suit according to claim 29 characterized in that wool or wool with other fibers or material is provided at said portion or portions to lie between the person and the said outer layer of material.

Claim 31 (Previously presented): A suit according to claim 30 characterized in that the wool or wool with other fibers or material comes into contact with water which enters the wet suit.

Claim 32 (Previously presented): A suit according to claim 29 characterized in that the wool or wool with other fibers or material is provided wherever water is permitted to pass between the person and layer of material.

Claim 33 (Currently amended): A suit material according to claim 25 wherein ~~that~~ the outer layer of material of the suit is manufactured from a rubber foam material such as such as neoprene or chloroprene.

Claims 34-36 (Cancelled).

Claim 37 (Previously presented): A suit according to any of the preceding claims characterized in that the wool which is used includes or is wholly, wool from the Merino breed of sheep.

Claim 38 (Cancelled).

Claim 39 (Previously presented): A suit according to claim 25 characterized in that the wool is a blend that includes a synthetic yarn in a proportion of between 1% to 40% by weight of the overall weight of the blend.

Claim 40 (Currently amended): A suit according to claim 39 characterized in that a material is added to the wool which is at least partially elasticated to offer improved elasticity (stretch) and/or strength to the wool or wool with other fibers or material.

Claim 41 (Currently amended): A method of manufacturing a wetsuit or drysuit for use with water, said method consisting ~~essentially of~~ forming a substantially compressible closed cell material to form an outer layer of a shape for wearing by a person, providing an outer protective layer thereon and an inner layer of wool or wool containing material is provided to lie between the person and the outer layer of material when the suit is worn wherein said inner layer is of a weight of between 50 to 500 grams per square meter and is laminated to the inner surface of the outer layer so as to retain liquid from the person or liquid which has entered the suit from externally to form a substantially non-compressible thermal barrier between the person and the outer layer.

Claim 42 (Previously presented): A method according to claim 41 characterized in that the method includes the step of laminating the wool material as a lining to the inner surface of the layer of material.

Claim 43 (Previously presented): A method according to claim 42 characterized in that when in the form of a wetsuit the method includes the step of providing means in the said material to permit the flow of water between the inner surface of said layer and the persons skin when the wet suit is worn and providing control means to allow the control of the quantity of water.

Claim 44 (Previously presented): A method according to claim 43 characterized in that the water passing into the area between the diver and the layer of material contacts and is absorbed by the wool or wool containing material.

Claim 45 (Previously presented): A wetsuit or drysuit for use with water according to claim 25, said suit including at least one inner portion formed of a knitted or woven material, said inner portion provided as an integral part of the suit or to be worn as an inner layer over which the outer layer of material is placed.

Claim 46 (Previously presented): A suit according to claim 45 characterized in that the knitted or woven material includes a blend of wool and other material or fiber yarn.

Claim 47 (Previously presented): A suit according to claim 46 characterized in that the wool used is Merino wool and the yarn is synthetic.

Claim 48 (Currently amended): A suit to be worn by a person in contact with water, said suit consisting ~~essentially~~ of an outer layer of substantially closed cell compressible material, an outer protective layer and at least a portion of the suit includes a layer of wool or wool blended with other fibers or materials, which forms an inner layer of the suit in contact with the person and said inner layer provided to contact and retain at least some of the liquid which enters the suit from an external source and/or from the person wearing the suit such that the inner layer retains the liquid therein to form a substantially non-compressible, thermal barrier between the said person and the outer layer of the suit and wherein said inner layer is laminated to the outer layer and provided of a weight of between 50-500 ~~grammes~~ grams per square meter and the wool is blended with synthetic material in the range of 1-40% by weight of the overall weight of the layer.

Claim 49 (Cancelled).

Claim 50 (New): A suit to be worn by a person in contact with water, said suit consisting essentially of an outer layer of substantially closed cell compressible material, and at least a portion of the suit includes a layer of wool, or wool with other fibers or materials, which forms an inner layer of the suit in contact with the person and said inner layer provided to contact and retain at least some of the liquid which enters the suit from an external source and/or from the person wearing the suit said inner layer is laminated to the outer layer and provided of a weight of between 50-500 grams per square meter such that the inner layer retains the liquid therein to form a substantially non-compressible, thermal barrier between the said person and the outer layer of the suit and wherein the said inner layer is formed by knitting the wool or wool with

other fibers or materials and at least the face of the said layer facing the skin of the person is formed of fibers with an average micron of finer than 19.

Claim 51(New): A suit according to claim 50 wherein the opposing face is knitted with a coarser weave than the said layer facing the skin of said person.

Claim 52 (New): A method of manufacturing a wetsuit or drysuit for use with water, said method consisting essentially of forming a substantially compressible closed cell material to form an outer layer of a shape for wearing by a person, and an inner layer of wool or wool containing material is provided to lie between the person and the outer layer of material when the suit is worn wherein said inner layer is of a weight of between 50 to 500 grams per square meter and is laminated to the inner surface of the outer layer so as to retain liquid from the person or liquid which has entered the suit from externally to form a substantially non-compressible thermal barrier between the person and the outer layer and wherein at least the face of the inner layer facing the skin of the person is formed of fibers with an average micron of finer than 19.

Claim 53 (New): A suit to be worn by a person in contact with water, said suit consisting essentially of an outer layer of substantially closed cell compressible material, and at least a portion of the suit includes a layer of wool, or wool with other fibers or materials, which forms an inner layer of the suit in contact with the person and said inner layer provided to contact and retain at least some of the liquid which enters the suit from an external source and/or from the person wearing the suit and wherein said inner layer is laminated to the outer layer and provided of a weight of between 50-500 grams per square meter such that the inner layer retains the liquid

and has a thickness of between 3-5mm with the liquid therein to form a single layer substantially non-compressible, thermal barrier between the said person and the outer layer of the suit.

Claim 54 (New): A method of manufacturing a wetsuit or drysuit for use with water, said method consisting essentially of forming a substantially compressible closed cell material to form an outer layer of a shape for wearing by a person, and an inner layer of wool or wool containing material is provided to lie between the person and the outer layer of material when the suit is worn wherein said inner layer is of a weight of between 50 to 500 grams per square meter and is laminated to the inner surface of the outer layer so as to retain liquid from the person or liquid which has entered the suit from externally to form a 3-5mm thick single layer with the liquid held therein and act as a substantially non-compressible thermal barrier between the person and the outer layer.

Claim 55 (New): A suit to be worn by a person in contact with water, said suit consisting eventually of an outer layer of substantially closed cell compressible material, and at least a portion of the suit includes a layer of wool with other fibers or material, which forms an inner layer of the suit in contact with the person and said inner layer provided to contact and retain at least some of the liquid which enters the suit from an external source and/or from the person wearing the suit, said inner layer is laminated to the outer layer and provided of a weight of between 50-500 grams per square meter such that the inner layer retains the liquid therein to form a substantially non-compressible, thermal barrier between the said person and the outer layer of the suit and wherein said inner layer includes material which is at least partially elasticated to provide elasticity (stretch) and strength to the inner layer.